

Chairperson
Ellen Shemitz

Vice-chairperson
Elizabeth O'Callahan

Clerk
[vacant]



Human Rights Commission

Members:
Robert Bilotta
Guillermo Creamer Jr.
Charles Hopkins
LaToya Lewis
Jamaine Ortiz
Bernard Reese
Jacqueline Yang

MEETING AGENDA

Monday July 10, 2023, 6:00pm

**City Hall Esther Howland Chamber, 3rd flr,
455 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608**

Virtual meeting link: <https://cow.webex.com/cow/j.php?MTID=m9d233db4f78bb0528628acf433e3ce8a>

Meeting number: 2311 007 3698 Password: C6GputMFp79 Phone: 415-655-0001

To request a reasonable accommodation or interpretation or to submit written comments or questions in advance of the meeting, please contact the Human Rights and Accessibility Office by email at humanrights@worcesterma.gov. Please note that interpretation requests must be received no later than 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

Note: Participants on WebEx may select to view closed captioning (via artificial intelligence) in a variety of languages.

Para solicitar interpretación o una adaptación razonables o para enviar comentarios o preguntas por escrito antes de la reunión, comuníquese con la Oficina de Derechos Humanos y Accesibilidad por correo electrónico a humanrights@worcesterma.gov. Tenga en cuenta que las solicitudes de interpretación deben recibirse a más tardar 48 horas antes de la reunión. Nota: Los participantes en WebEx pueden seleccionar ver subtítulos (a través de inteligencia artificial) en una variedad de idiomas.

AGENDA

1. Call to order, introductions, instructions for public participation

Public Comment *(Time will be allotted for each item as it is introduced or at Chairperson discretion)*

2. Moment of silence in honor of Sgt. Derrick Leto, former Police Diversity Officer

3. Approval of meeting minutes from May 1, 2023 and June 12, 2023

4. Annual meeting with the Worcester Police Department

Review and discuss annual reports to the Commission:

1. Hate crime statistics;
2. Bureau of professional standards report;
3. Report on WPD Diversity Officers' recruitment, outreach, and initiatives

Review and discuss responses to outstanding items:

1. Response on whether all WPD officers will be issued city cell phones and when? (continued on page 2) →

2. Report on number of WPD personnel who are fluent in a language other than English (specify language)
3. Passing rate for 2022 Police Civil Service Exam (broken down by race and gender)
4. Share link to LGBTQ liaison tab on WPD webpages
5. Share data on motor vehicle stops of city residents with a focus on the breakdown of stops and citations by race, by department, by location (zip code or specific intersections), and the highest number of stops and citations by a particular officer verses the average
6. Share WPD drone policy
7. Share for review the draft/final WPD Limited English Proficiency policy and procedures
8. Date for next citizen police academy program

5. Vote to hold joint meetings with Worcester Elections Commission (August and September dates TBD)

6. Update on municipal broadband conversations

7. Announcement: Commission staff change effective August 2023

8. Adjournment. Next meeting Monday August 7, 2023, 6pm. Conversation with WPD (Part 2):

The Commission will review and discuss the responses to the following requests:

- Please provide a report on 2022 police paid details. In such report, please:
 - List paid details by date, type, number of hours, number of officers, pay rate.
 - Provide explanation as to the request process, special requirements, minimum hours, fee schedule and cite applicable authority.
 - List the number and reasons for unfilled requests.
- Please indicate how many civil rights lawsuits has the WPD settled over the past decade?
 - How much money has been paid out per lawsuit and in the aggregate over the past decade?
 - How many of these settlements involved claims of use of excessive force?
 - How many of these settlements involved claims of unconstitutional stop and frisks?
 - How many of these settlements involved claims of unlawful arrest?
 - How many of these settlements involved claims of the use of race and/or national origin as factors in deciding to stop and frisk and/or arrest?
 - What policy and /or practice changes have been implemented in the wake of these settlements in order to prevent any further charges of civil rights violations?
- Please indicate how many arrests were made on the night of June 1-2, 2020?
 - Please break down that number by type of charge.
 - Please indicate for each type of charge which arrests involved POC.
 - In how many of those arrests were cell phones seized or damaged?
 - How many of the charges filed resulted in dismissal nolle prosequi?
- Please describe the duties of the WPD Tactical Patrol Force Project 6 *(henceforth Patrol Force).
 - When was it created?
 - With what purpose?
 - How many arrests has that patrol force made since its inception?
 - Please break down those arrests by category.

- What percentage of those arrests involved POC?
 - What percentage of those arrests resulted in convictions?
 - What percentage of those convictions involved POC?
 - Have any actions of the Patrol Force been challenged in civil rights lawsuits?
 - Have any of those lawsuits resulted in settlements?
 - Please detail the amounts paid for each such settlement.
- Please provide detailed inventory of any incident over the past five years in which any member of the WPD utilized a Safari-Smoke Grenade, including:
 - the event at which the grenade was deployed,
 - the number of grenades deployed,
 - the policy officer(s) who deployed the grenade(s), and
 - any report(s) filed of injuries sustained by police officers and/or civilians as a result of the use of such grenade(s).
- Please provide detailed inventory of any incident over the past five years in which any member of the WPD utilized stinger grenades, sponge X-act impact rounds, triple chaser OC canisters, and/or 40mm eXact impact rounds (henceforth "devices"), including:
 - the event at which the device(s) was/were deployed,
 - the number of device(s) deployed,
 - the policy officer(s) who deployed the device(s), and
 - any report(s) filed of injuries sustained by police officers and/or civilians as a result of the use of such device(s).
- Please list the number of incident reports filed over the past five years reporting the use of force at a Level Three or higher? For each report please indicate:
 - if the subject was a POC?
 - if an actual arrest was made,
 - if charges were filed and the disposition of those charges, and
 - please indicate the name(s) of the police officers involved.
- Please detail every WPD BOPS internal investigation that has been conducted over the past five years and the disposition of such investigation.
- Please detail every disciplinary action against any policy officer for the use of excessive force, including the name of the police officer, over the past five years. Please indicate for each such case whether criminal prosecution against the officer(s) ensued and the result of any such prosecution.
- Please detail every disciplinary action against any policy officer for the filing of a false report, including the name of the police officer, over the past five years. Please indicate for each such case whether criminal prosecution against the officer(s) ensued and the result of any such prosecution.
- Please detail the number of uses of tasers over the last five years and, for each such use please indicate:
 - the stated rationale for the use of said taser(s)
 - whether the incident resulted in an arrest,
 - whether the arrest resulted in charges and the ultimate disposition of such charges, and whether the incident involved a person of color.